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INTERNATIONAL BUREAU PROVIDES GUIDANCE CONCERNING AVOIDANCE OF IN-LINE INTERFERENCE EVENTS AMONG KU-BAND NGSO FSS SYSTEMS

Report No. SPB-265

In response to inquiries, the International Bureau hereby provides guidance concerning the criteria for avoidance of in-line interference events among Ku-band¹ non-geostationary-satellite orbit fixed-satellite service (NGSO FSS) systems.

In 2002, the Commission adopted criteria for sharing of the Ku band among NGSO FSS systems.² These criteria, based on avoidance of in-line interference events among NGSO systems, were not codified in the Commission's rules. In 2003, the Commission adopted the same sharing criteria for NGSO FSS systems in the Ka band.³ For Ka-band systems, the sharing criteria were codified in Section 25.261.⁴ To date, each authorization issued to a Ku-band NGSO FSS applicant has included the sharing criteria specified in the text of Section 25.261(b)-(d) as a condition of the authorization.⁵

The International Bureau clarifies that the text in Section 25.261 for Ka-band NGSO FSS systems also describes the same sharing criteria the Commission adopted for Ku-band systems. Consistent with precedent, the Bureau will, under the sharing criteria adopted in 2002, continue to utilize this text as a condition for authorization of any Ku-band NGSO FSS system.

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¹ In this Notice, "Ku band" refers to the 10.7-12.7 GHz, 12.75-13.25 GHz, and 13.75-14.5 GHz frequency bands.

² The Establishment of Policies and Service Rules for the Non-Geostationary Satellite Orbit, Fixed Satellite Service in the Ku-Band, Report and Order, IB Docket No. 01-96, 17 FCC Rcd 7841 (2002).

³ The Establishment of Policies and Service Rules for the Non-Geostationary Satellite Orbit, Fixed Satellite Service in the Ka-Band, Report and Order, IB Docket No. 02-19, 18 FCC Rcd 14708, 14717, ¶ 29 (2003) ("The Avoidance of In-Line Interference Events method that we adopt for spectrum sharing among NGSO FSS systems in the Ka-Band frequencies is the same sharing method that the Commission adopted last year for use among NGSO FSS systems in the Ku-Band[.]"). Here, "Ka band" refers to the 18.8-19.3 GHz and 28.6-29.1 GHz frequency bands.

⁴ 47 C.F.R. § 25.261.

⁵ Application of SkyBridge L.L.C. For Authority to Launch and Operate a Global Network of Low-Earth Orbit Communications Satellites Providing Broadband Services in the Fixed-Satellite Service, Order and Authorization, DA 05-2037, 20 FCC Rcd 12389, 12408-09, ¶ 74 (Int'l Bur. 2005); Application of Virtual Geosatellite, LLC For Authority to Launch and Operate a Global Fixed-Satellite Service System Employing Non-Geostationary Satellites in Sub-Geosynchronous Elliptical Orbits, Order and Authorization, DA 06-2560, 21 FCC Rcd 14687, 14712, ¶ 91 (Int'l Bur. 2006).